



NFM2106/NFE2105

Mathematics

Integration (finding area)



Outline/Learning outcomes

- ❖ In this unit we'll be concerned with **finding the areas** of various regions in the plane, which are bounded by the graphs of given functions and certain vertical and/or horizontal lines.
- ❖ This is an application of the material covered in the unit on **definite integration**.
- ❖ The general technique for finding the areas mentioned above is introduced and illustrated by a number of **examples** of varying degrees of difficulty.

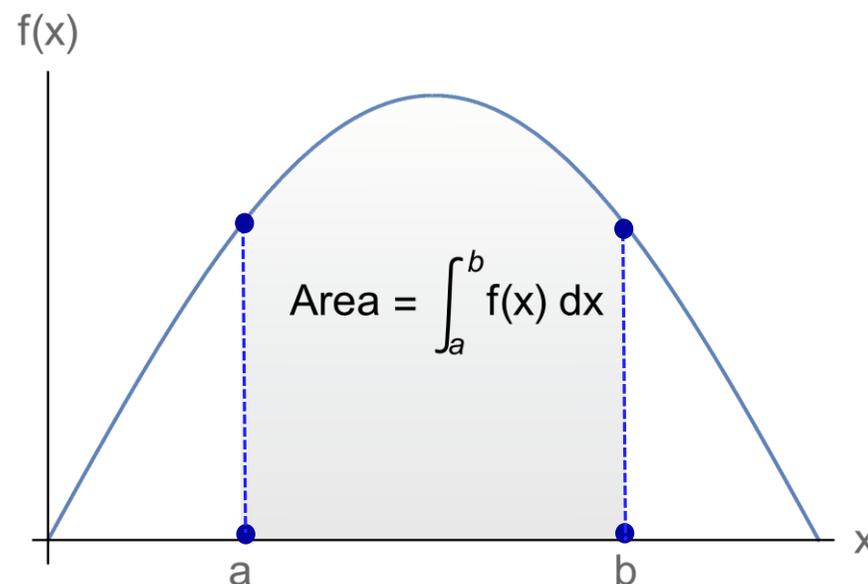
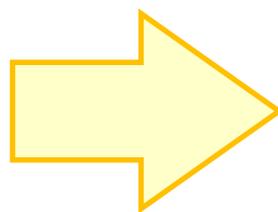
Reminder:

The **definite integral** of $f(x)$, with upper and lower limits b and a , is

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = [F(x)]_a^b = F(b) - F(a)$$

Geometrical interpretation:

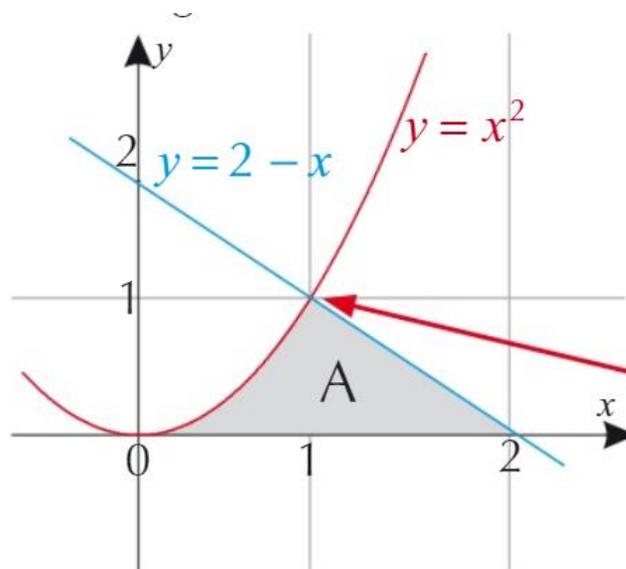
Area enclosed by
the x -axis and $f(x)$,
between $x = a$
and $x = b$



Enclosed area: examples

To find the area between a curve, a line and the x -axis, you'll either have to **add** or **subtract** integrals to find the area you're after — it's always best to **draw a diagram** of the area.

EXAMPLE: Find the area enclosed by the curve $y = x^2$, the line $y = 2 - x$ and the x -axis.

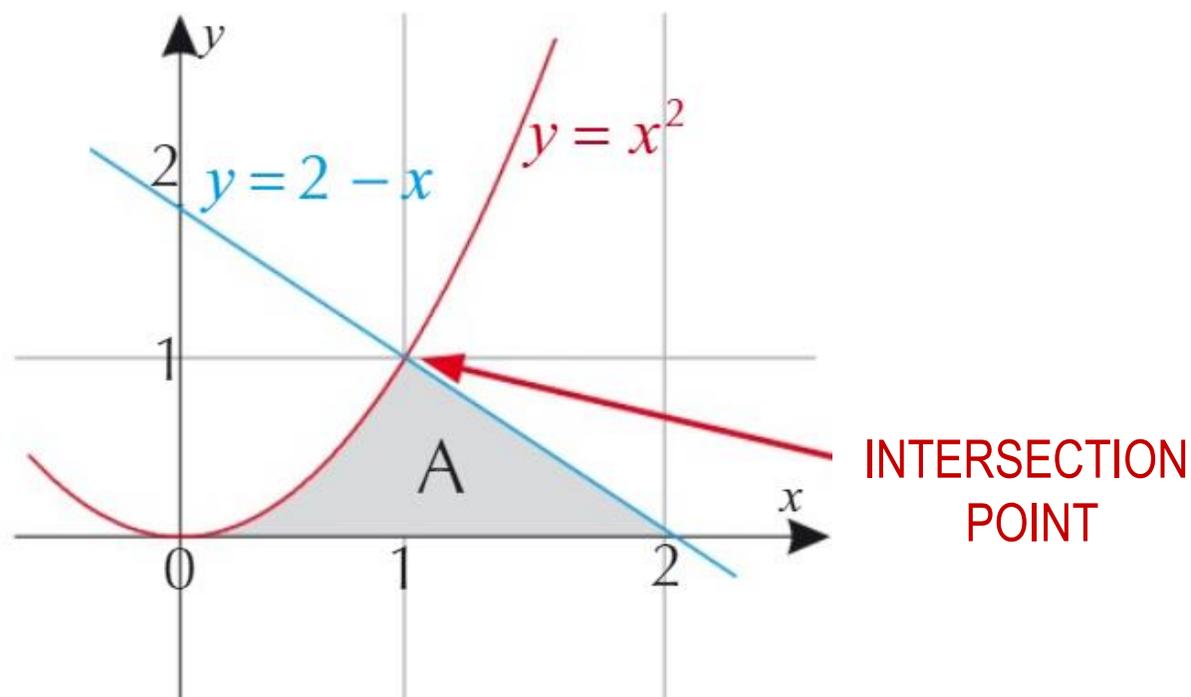


You have to find **area A** — but you'll need to **split** it into two smaller bits.

Find out where the curve and line meet by **solving** $x^2 = 2 - x$. They meet at $x = 1$ (they also meet at $x = -2$, but this isn't in A).

OBSERVATION

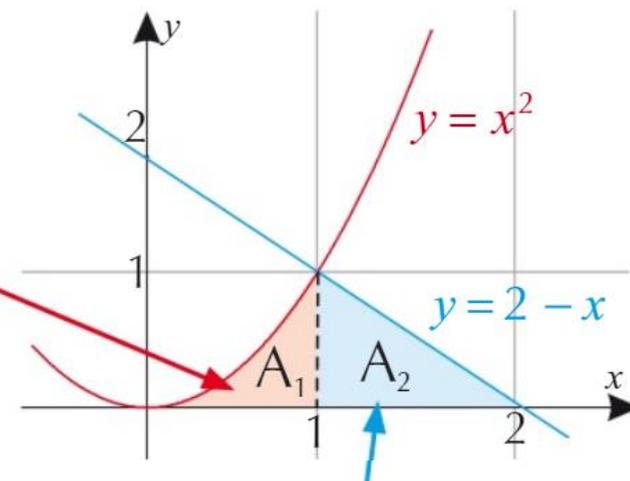
Tip: You need to find the x -coordinate of the point of intersection between the line and the curve, as well as the x -intercept of each function, so that you know the limits to integrate between.



Enclosed areas: examples

A_1 is the area under the curve $y = x^2$ between 0 and 1, so integrate between these limits to find the area:

$$\int_0^1 x^2 dx = \left[\frac{x^3}{3} \right]_0^1 = \frac{1}{3} - 0 = \frac{1}{3}$$



A_2 is the area under the line $y = 2 - x$ between 1 and 2, so integrate between these limits to find the area:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_1^2 (2 - x) dx &= \left[2x - \frac{x^2}{2} \right]_1^2 \\ &= \left(2(2) - \frac{2^2}{2} \right) - \left(2(1) - \frac{1^2}{2} \right) \\ &= 2 - \frac{3}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Add the areas together to find the area A:

$$A = A_1 + A_2 = \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{2} = \frac{5}{6}$$

A general result:

Let f, g be two continuous functions such that

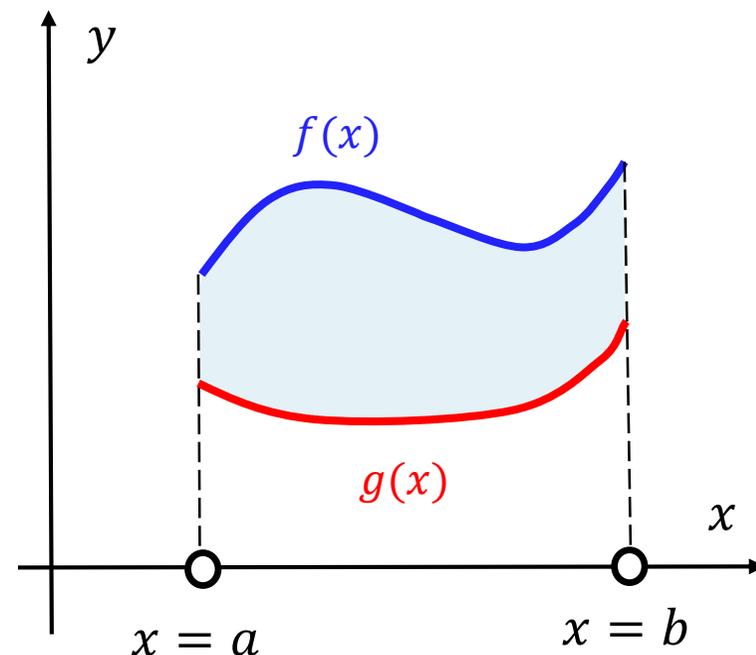
$$f(x) \geq g(x) \quad \text{for all } a \leq x \leq b$$

Then the **finite area** between the graphs of these two functions and the vertical lines $x = a$ and $x = b$ is given by

$$\int_a^b [f(x) - g(x)] dx$$



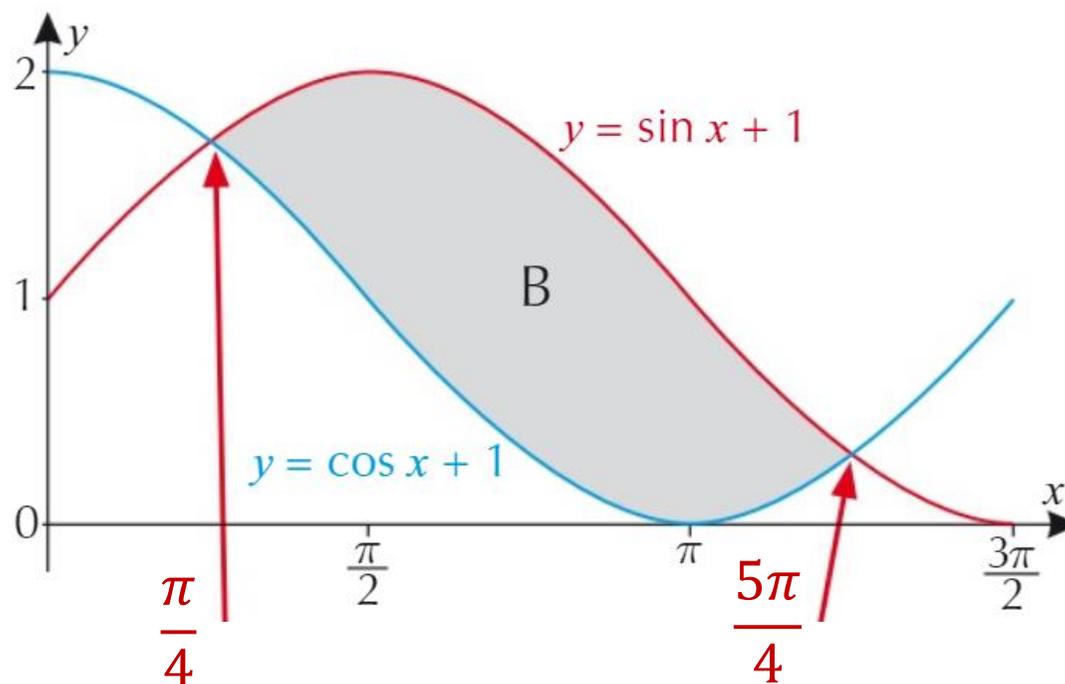
$$\int_a^b \left(\begin{array}{c} \textit{upper} \\ \textit{function} \end{array} \right) - \left(\begin{array}{c} \textit{lower} \\ \textit{function} \end{array} \right) dx$$



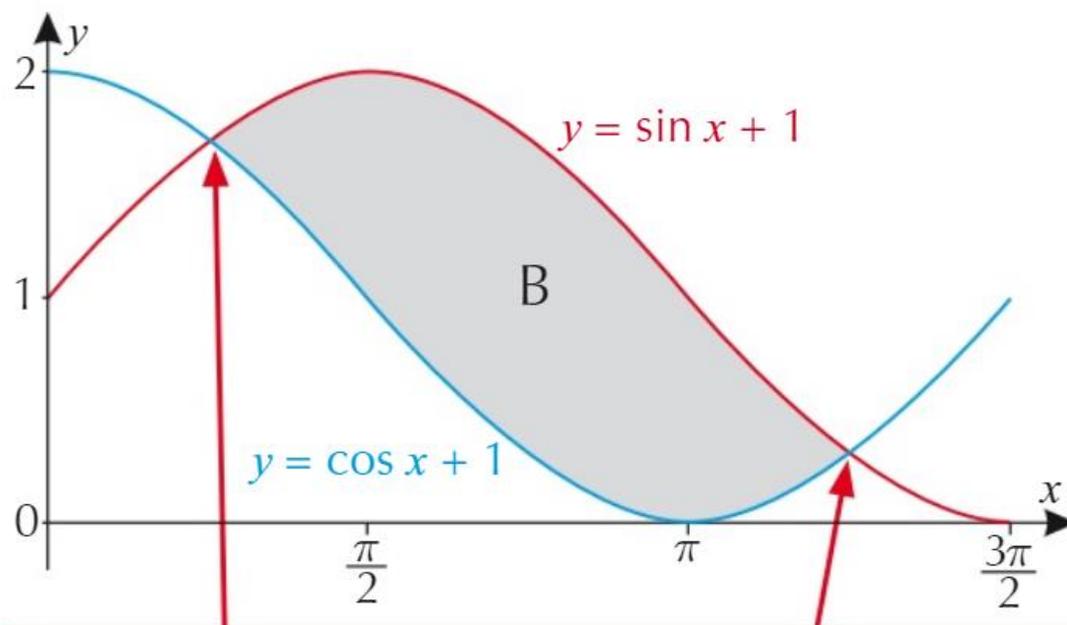
Enclosed areas: examples

Sometimes you'll need to find the area **enclosed** by the graphs of two functions — this usually means **subtracting** some area from another. Here is an example with two curves:

EXAMPLE: The diagram below shows the curves $y = \sin x + 1$ and $y = \cos x + 1$. Find the area of the shaded grey region.



Enclosed areas: examples



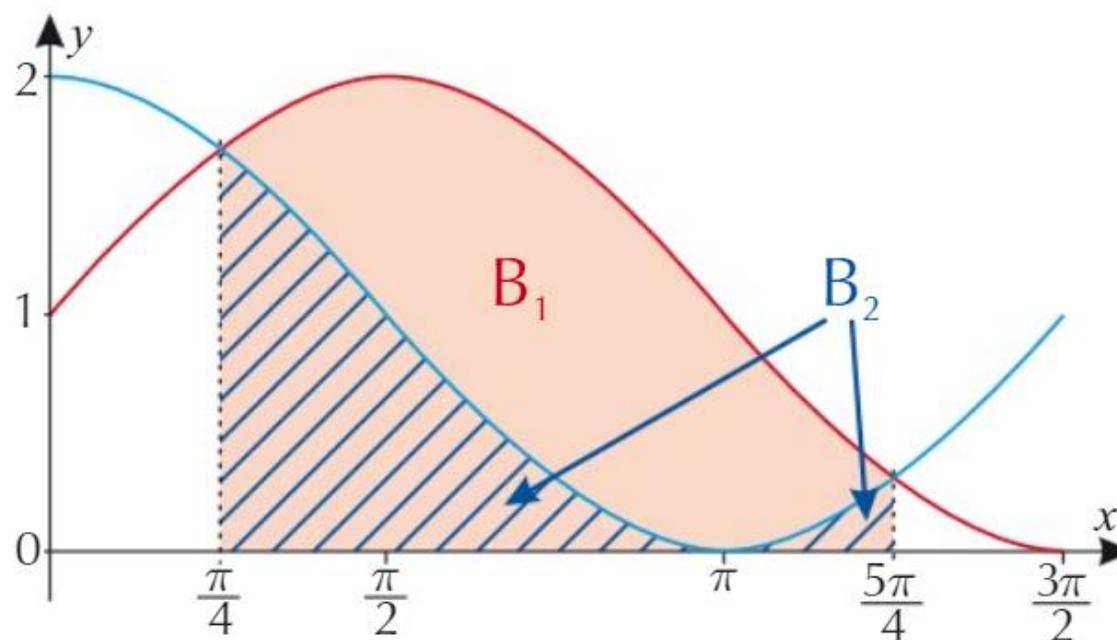
Find out where the graphs meet by **solving** $\sin x + 1 = \cos x + 1$

$$\Rightarrow \sin x = \cos x \Rightarrow \frac{\sin x}{\cos x} = 1 \Rightarrow \tan x = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \tan^{-1}(1) = \frac{\pi}{4}, \frac{5\pi}{4}. \text{ They meet at } x = \frac{\pi}{4} \text{ and } x = \frac{5\pi}{4}.$$

Enclosed areas: examples

- You need to find two different integrals to work out the area of B:



- The area B is the area under the **red** curve between $\frac{\pi}{4}$ and $\frac{5\pi}{4}$ (B_1) **minus** the area under the **blue** curve between $\frac{\pi}{4}$ and $\frac{5\pi}{4}$ (B_2).

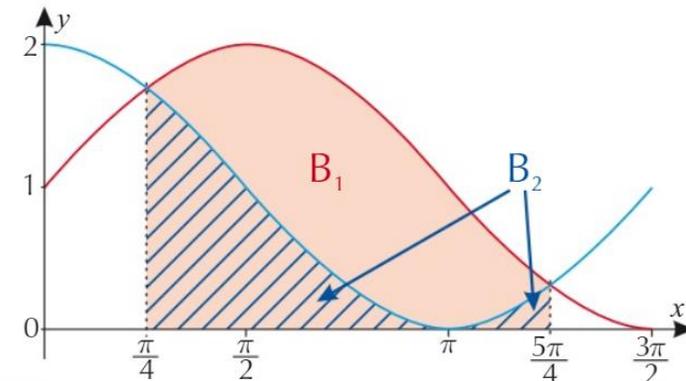
Enclosed areas: examples

$$B_1 = \int_{\frac{\pi}{4}}^{\frac{5\pi}{4}} \sin x + 1 \, dx = [-\cos x + x]_{\frac{\pi}{4}}^{\frac{5\pi}{4}} = \left(-\cos\left(\frac{5\pi}{4}\right) + \frac{5\pi}{4}\right) - \left(-\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) + \frac{\pi}{4}\right)$$

$$= \left(-\left(-\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right) + \frac{5\pi}{4}\right) - \left(-\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + \frac{\pi}{4}\right) = \sqrt{2} + \pi$$

$$B_2 = \int_{\frac{\pi}{4}}^{\frac{5\pi}{4}} \cos x + 1 \, dx = [\sin x + x]_{\frac{\pi}{4}}^{\frac{5\pi}{4}} = \left(\sin\left(\frac{5\pi}{4}\right) + \frac{5\pi}{4}\right) - \left(\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) + \frac{\pi}{4}\right)$$

$$= \left(-\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + \frac{5\pi}{4}\right) - \left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + \frac{\pi}{4}\right) = -\sqrt{2} + \pi$$



- So the area $B = B_1 - B_2 = (\sqrt{2} + \pi) - (-\sqrt{2} + \pi) = 2\sqrt{2}$

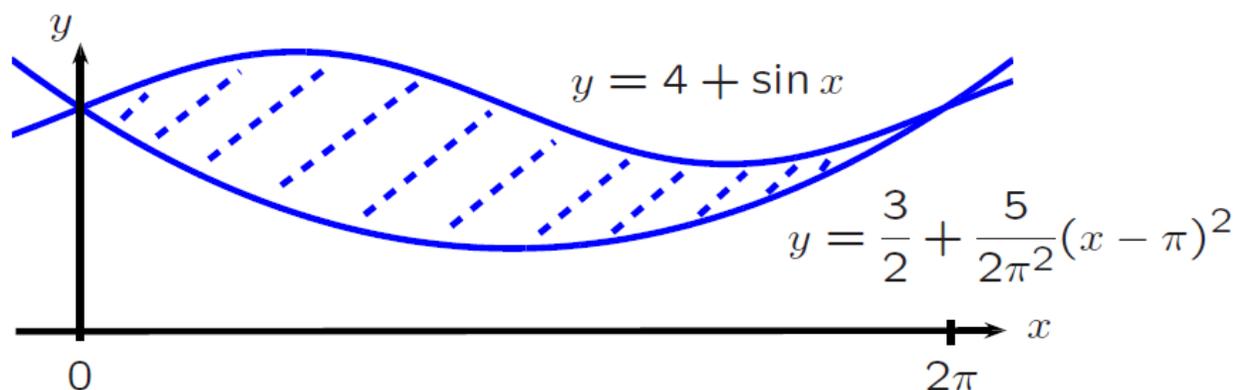
A similar example:

Find the area between the curves

$$y = \sin x + 4 \quad \text{and} \quad y = \frac{3}{2} + \frac{5}{2\pi^2}(x - \pi)^2$$

for $0 \leq x \leq 2\pi$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Area required} &= (\text{area below } y = \sin(x) + 4) \\ &- (\text{area below } y = \frac{3}{2} + \frac{5}{2\pi^2}(x - \pi)^2) \end{aligned}$$





(Cont'd)

$$= \int_0^{2\pi} \sin(x) + 4 \, dx - \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{3}{2} + \frac{5}{2\pi^2}(x - \pi)^2 \, dx$$

$$= [-\cos x]_0^{2\pi} + [4x]_0^{2\pi} - \left[\frac{3x}{2}\right]_0^{2\pi} - \left[\frac{5}{2\pi^2} \frac{(x - \pi)^3}{3}\right]_0^{2\pi}$$

$$= [-1 + 1] + [8\pi - 0] - [3\pi - 0] - \frac{5}{6\pi^2} [\pi^3 - (-\pi^3)]$$

$$= \frac{10\pi}{3}$$

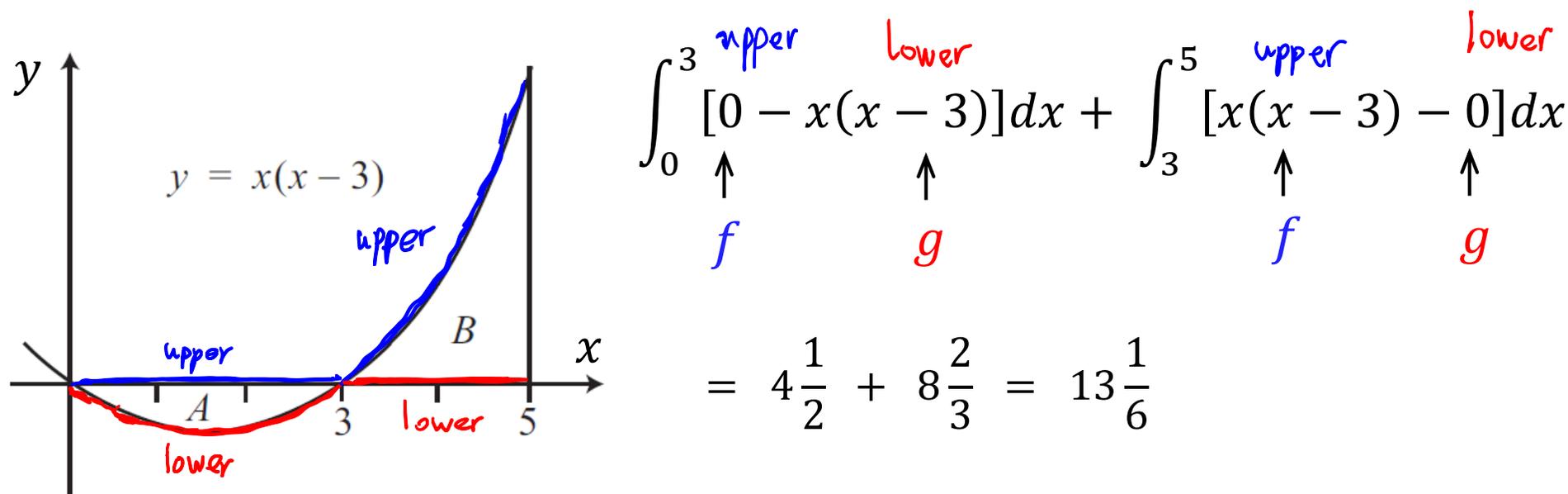


Observation

Sometimes you might need to add **and** subtract integrals to find the right area. You'll often need to do this when the curve goes **below** the x -axis. The integrations you need to do should be obvious if you draw a **picture**.

Here is such an example:

Find the area between the curve $y = x(x - 3)$ and the ordinates $x = 0$ and $x = 5$.

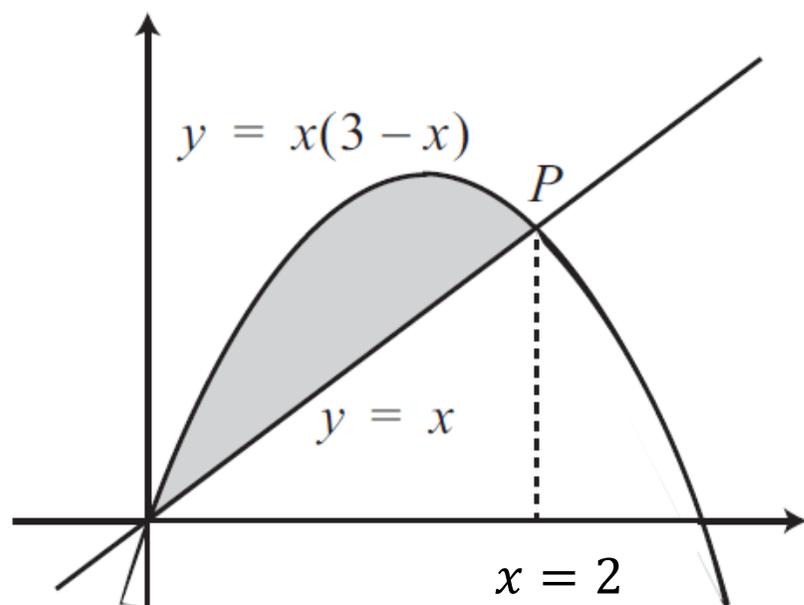


OBS. The x-axis has equation $y = 0$

(see MathTutor)

Other examples

Calculate the area of the segment cut from the curve $y = x(3 - x)$ by the line $y = x$.



$$\int_0^2 [x(3 - x) - x] dx$$

\uparrow \uparrow
f *g*

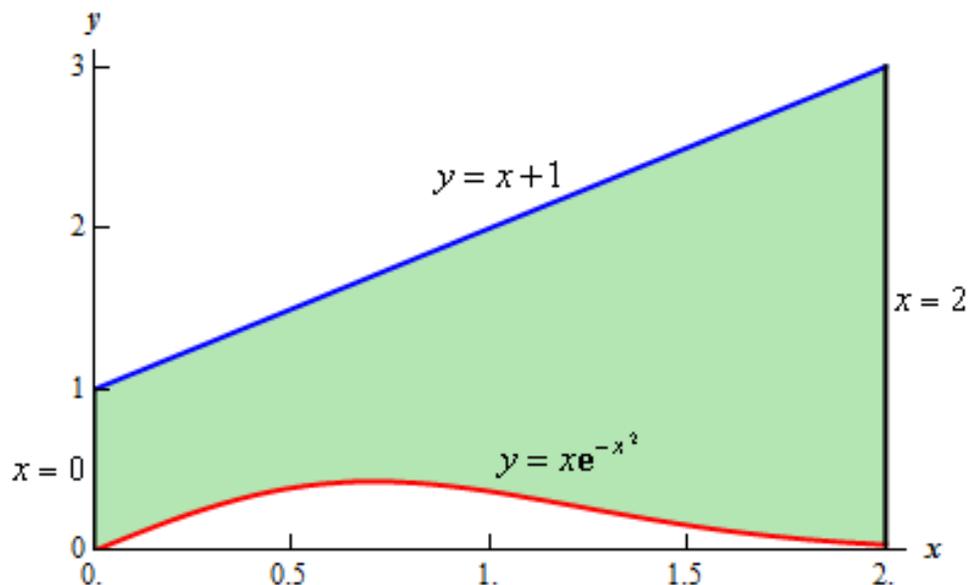
$$= \frac{4}{3}$$



Other examples

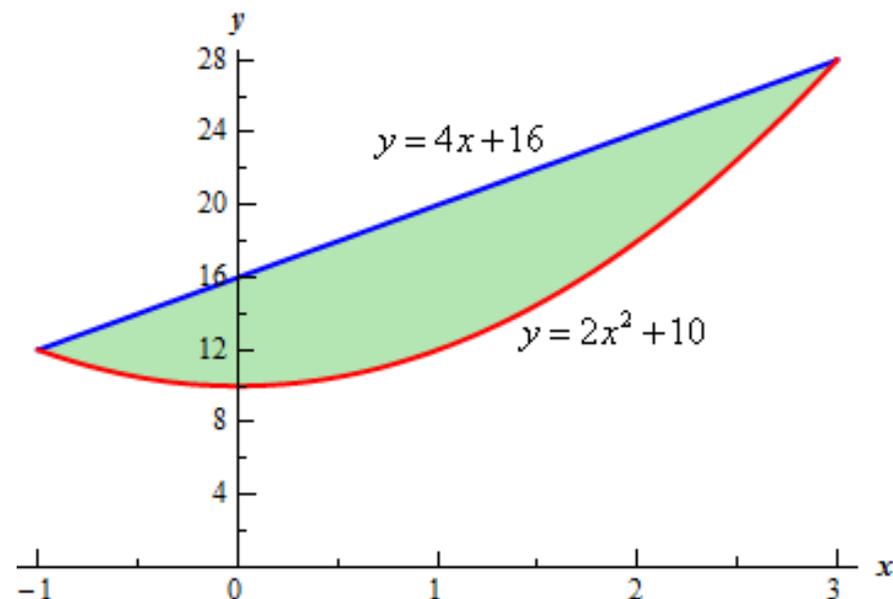
- Ⓐ Determine the area of the finite region bounded by $y = xe^{-x^2}$, $y = x + 1$, $x = 2$ and the y -axis

$$\text{Answer} = \frac{7}{2} + \frac{e^{-4}}{2}$$



- Ⓑ Determine the area of the finite region bounded by $y = 2x^2 + 10$ and $y = 4x + 16$

$$\text{Answer} = \frac{64}{3}$$



Solutions

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{A} \quad A &= \int_a^b (\text{upper function}) - (\text{lower function}) \, dx \\ &= \int_0^2 [(x+1) - xe^{-x^2}] \, dx = \int_0^2 (x+1 - xe^{-x^2}) \, dx \\ &= \left[\frac{1}{2}x^2 + x + \frac{1}{2}e^{-x^2} \right]_0^2 \\ &= \left[\frac{1}{2}(2^2) + 2 + \frac{1}{2}e^{-4} \right] - \left[\frac{1}{2}(0^2) + (0) + \frac{1}{2}e^{-0} \right] \\ &= \frac{7}{2} + \frac{e^{-4}}{2} \approx \boxed{3.5092} \end{aligned}$$

Solutions

⑧ intersection points:

$$2x^2 + 10 = 4x + 16$$

$$2x^2 - 4x - 6 = 0 \Rightarrow 2(x+1)(x-3) = 0$$

The two curves intersect at $x = -1$ and $x = 3$. Hence,

$$A = \int_a^b \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{upper} \\ \text{function} \end{array} \right) - \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{lower} \\ \text{function} \end{array} \right) dx = \int_{-1}^3 \left[(4x+16) - (2x^2+10) \right] dx$$

$$= \int_{-1}^3 (4x+16-2x^2-10) dx = \int_{-1}^3 (-2x^2+4x+6) dx$$

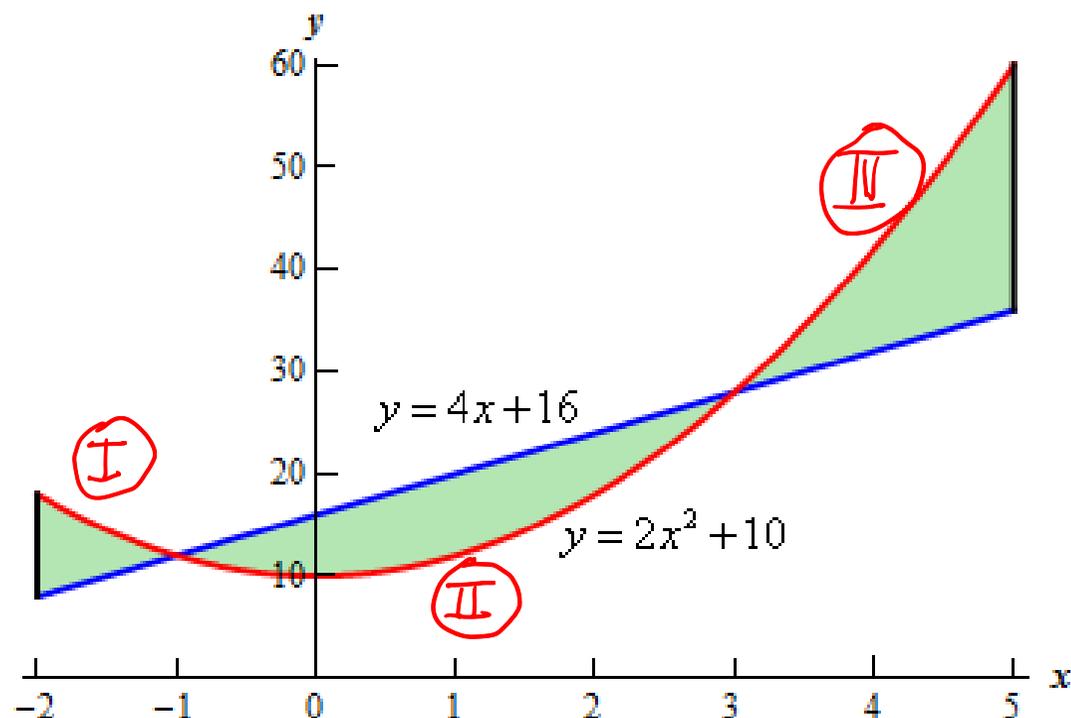
$$= \left[\underbrace{-\frac{2}{3}x^3 + 2x^2 + 6x}_{\text{antiderivative of the previous integrand}} \right]_{-1}^3 = \dots = \boxed{\frac{64}{3}}$$

antiderivative
of the previous
integrand

A difficult example

Determine the area of the finite region bounded by $y = 2x^2 + 10$
 $y = 4x + 16$, $x = -2$ and $x = 5$.

$$\text{Answer} = \frac{142}{3}$$



Solution

OBS: The intersection points have already been found:

$$x = -1 \quad \text{and} \quad x = 3$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 A &= \int_{-2}^{-1} (\dots) dx + \int_{-1}^3 (\dots) dx + \int_3^5 (\dots) dx \quad \leftarrow \text{area (I)} + \text{area (II)} + \text{area (III)} \\
 &= \int_{-2}^{-1} [(2x^2 + 10) - (4x + 16)] dx + \int_{-1}^3 [(4x + 16) - (2x^2 + 10)] dx + \int_3^5 [(2x^2 + 10) - (4x + 16)] dx \\
 &= \int_{-2}^{-1} (2x^2 - 4x - 6) dx + \int_{-1}^3 (-2x^2 + 4x + 6) dx + \int_3^5 (2x^2 - 4x - 6) dx \\
 &\quad \text{? antiderivative} \qquad \qquad \text{? antiderivative} \qquad \qquad \text{? antiderivative}
 \end{aligned}$$



Solution

$$= \left[\frac{2}{3}x^3 - 2x^2 - 6x \right]_{-2}^{-1} + \left[-\frac{2}{3}x^3 + 2x^2 + 6x \right]_{-1}^3 + \left[\frac{2}{3}x^3 - 2x^2 - 6x \right]_3^5$$

$$= \dots = \frac{14}{3} + \frac{64}{3} + \frac{64}{3} = \boxed{\frac{142}{3}}$$



Learning Resources

REQUIRED:

MathTutor:

<https://www.math tutor.ac.uk/integration/findingareasbyintegration>

OPTIONAL:

K.A. Stroud and D.J. Booth, Engineering Mathematics, 7th Edition,
p.366-279; Optional questions: Test Exercise F.13: Q.5 (p.380); Further Problems F.13 (p.381): Q.5, 6 (a,b,...,e).

(The practice questions for this week are available in a separate document on Brightspace; the above **optional** questions are for those who want to do more)